

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1277  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2017

**PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENTS**

**1277. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has expanded Preferential Trade Agreements with many countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to offer incentives to companies for boosting exports to those countries with which the Government has expanded Preferential Trade Agreements; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam, the government has recently expanded two Preferential Trade Agreements, namely, Chile and Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA). The India-Chile Preferential Trade Agreement of March, 2006 was further expanded on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016, according to which India and Chile have offered to each other concessions on 1031 and 1784 tariff lines respectively. The 4<sup>th</sup> Round of tariff concessions under Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) was concluded on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017, according to which tariff concessions on specified lines based on Margin of Preference have been offered by member countries to each other. The first Round of APTA was entered into force in 1975 and the current membership of APTA includes Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka. Both the Agreements will come into force subject to completion of internal procedures.

(c)&(d) There are no specific schemes for promoting exports under these two Agreements, however, exporters can avail of the existing export promotion schemes for boosting exports to the countries covered under the two Agreements.

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